

ready to lead the Pantherettes back to Austin next year.

Congratulations to coach Cathy Self-Morgan and the other Duncanville staff who guided a super group of girls through a historic season. The 2003 Duncanville Pantherettes have earned the chance to savor this victory and reflect on all their achievements together. I look forward to following the Pantherettes as they try to return to Austin next year.

#### SUPPORTING AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 4, 2003*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep and continued commitment to affirmative action.

Like many of my colleagues, I am baffled by the fact that almost thirty years since the enactment of the Civil Rights Act and the full implementation of affirmative action, many still question its importance and significance.

It astounds me that a country that brags on its riches in diversity of people can not equally boast on their diversity in university class rooms and company board rooms. Affirmative action is not a hand out! It is an all access pass for people who have long been denied the chance to achieve their potential because of an American society steeped in institutionalized racism and sexism.

Mr. Speaker, as you may know, there has been a recent uproar over the issue of affirmative action. In the past such states as Texas, California, and more recently my home state of Florida has prematurely abolished affirmative action, deeming it no longer necessary. Now, we are faced with this issue again. However this time, it's Michigan.

In 1999, the state of Florida brought an end to affirmative action under a plan named the One Florida Initiative. This initiative not only sparked hundreds of protest, but also ignited a march in Tallahassee, Florida's capital. Former state senator and current U.S. Congressman KENDRICK MEEK led this demonstration.

Mr. Speaker, as much as I wish affirmative action was an expired concept from an archaic time, the fact is, it is not. It is still needed. We as a Nation will no longer need affirmative action when we address the inequalities found at the heart of the educational system and corporate America. Then and only then should we discuss its abolishment.

#### RECOGNITION OF ELIZABETH CLARK

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 4, 2003*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Elizabeth Clark, a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of America, Troop 985, and in earning the most prestigious honor of the Gold Award.

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest achievement attainable in girl scouting. To earn the Gold Award, a scout must complete five requirements, all of which promote community service, personal and spiritual growth, positive values, and leadership skills. The requirements include, (1) Earning four interest project patches, each of which requires seven activities that center on skill building, technology, service projects, and career exploration, (2) earning the career exploration pin, which involves researching careers, writing resumes, and planning a career fair or trip, (3) earning the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, which requires a minimum of 30 hours of work using leadership skills, (4) designing a self-development plan that requires assessment of ability to interact with others and prioritize values, participation for a minimum of 15 hours in a community service project, and development of a plan to promote girl scouting, and (5) spending a minimum of 50 hours planning and implementing a Girl Scout Gold Award project that has a positive lasting impact on the community.

For her Gold Award project, Elizabeth created handicapped parking for more than ten city buildings.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Elizabeth Clark for her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of America and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Gold Award.

#### IN HONOR OF DR. SAMUEL GWINN

### HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 4, 2003*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to congratulate Dr. Samuel W. Gwinn of Newark, Delaware on his induction into the National 4-H Hall of Fame. His long-time service to the Cooperative Extension and 4-H programs has touched the lives of numerous children in Delaware.

Dr. Gwinn, 83, served as Director of the Delaware Cooperative Extension for 22 years before retiring in 1984. His legacy with 4-H began when he joined the club as a 10-year-old. After participating in the club's activities as a child, he decided to help the club serve the future generations of children. In 1949, Dr. Gwinn established an overnight 4-H camp at Camp Barnes in Frankford, Delaware. To this day, the camp continues to attract hundreds of 4-H campers in the summer. In the 1970's, Dr. Gwinn helped create the Delaware 4-H Foundation that raises money to support 4-H activities for children. Throughout his career of service, Dr. Gwinn has served as a mentor to many colleagues who refer to him as the "Dean of Extension" and "Mr. 4-H."

Dr. Gwinn performed a great service by dedicating his career to enriching and giving back to Delawareans the experience that was given to him. It is people like Dr. Gwinn who ensure that the State of Delaware and the nation will continue to keep the American Dream alive and growing. I am proud to honor Dr. Gwinn's achievements and congratulate him on being the first Delawarean to be inducted into the 4-H Hall of Fame. His recognition, Mr. Speaker, is duly deserved.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 4, 2003*

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, on February 27, 2003, I was unavoidably absent for several rollcall votes, due to influenza and a physician's advice to rest.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes 37 (Greenwood Substitute Amendment) and 38 (Motion to Recommit) and "yea" on rollcall vote 39 (Final Passage of H.R. 534—Human Cloning Prohibition Act).

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 4, 2003*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 29, 30, 31, and 32, on February 13, 2003, I was unable to cast my vote because I was on Speaker-authorized travel with CODEL Collins to Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Kuwait.

Had I been present, I would have voted the following:

Rollcall 29, the Motion to Recommit on the Personal Responsibility, Work, and Family Promotion Act, I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall 30, on Passage of the Personal Responsibility, Work, and Family Promotion Act, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall 31, the Motion to Recommit on the Making Further Continuing Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2003, and for other purposes, I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall 32, on Passage of the Making Further Continuing Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2003, and for other purposes, I would have voted "yea."

#### TRIBUTE TO MS. FIFINE GLAWS

### HON. MARY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 4, 2003*

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, along with my colleagues, Representatives JAN SCHAKOWSKY and SILVESTRE REYES, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Cannon elevator operator Ms. Fifine Glaws, who passed away over the President's Day weekend.

Fifine, a native of Boston, followed her family, including three siblings, to the Washington area in 1970. She began work at the Capitol in March 1983.

Each day, for close to 20 years, Fifine would make the trip from her group home in Rockville, MD to the Hill. However, unlike that of many other commuters, Fifine's trek was not an easy one. As her brother, Peter Glaws, told the Washington Post (Feb 20, 2003, page B1), Fifine "faced adversity every day and conquered it every day . . . She had much less to deal with in terms of capacity and had a very simplistic approach to life—that if you were expected to do something, you did it."